THE OBSERVATOR.

…ter concerning the Increaſe of Papiſts in and about London, *and particularly at* Hammer-…ith. *A Paragraph of* Abel's *written Poſtſcript to* Ireland, *and ſeveral Places of* England, …Mr. Leſley *is gone to convert the Pretender, which may prevent the Neceſſity of a* Come-…. *Reflections upon it. On the burning the Presbyterian Meeting-Houſe at* Weſtbury *in* …ſhire, *the* 19*th inſtant.*

From Saturday, July 21. to Wedneſday, July 25. 1711.

…WE muſt delay our further Inquiry into the Source of that Hereſy, Immorality and Profaneneſs, which ſo …nfeſts the Nation, Maſter, till another …or now I have two or three remarkable In… of the Efforts of the Party to ſerve the …f the Romiſh Hereſy.

…Let's have them, *Roger*; I make no Queſ…t they will multiply upon our hands, if …ple get their Will, and that very ſpeedi…

…ym. The firſt is a Letter from a Gentle…ich I think very material, but has lain …by the way, becauſe wrong directed, …ent to our Publiſher, as we have from …time deſir'd they ſhould: 'Tis thus,

…R,

…n ſeem to be a vigilant Patron of the …ſtant Cauſe, againſt the inveterate …d Papiſts, Highfliers and Atheiſts to…, I thought it not improper to acquaint …a Neſt of them, at a Place but at a …ſtance from *London*; from which Place I …rant not a Quarter, if any remov'd, on …eſty's Proclamation, tho within the Com…manded: the Place I mean is *Hammer*…nder the very Noſe of the B——p of … Here they have a Chappel and Nunne…daily pervert the poor ignorant Labou… Gardeners by their pretended Kindneſs …ities; inſomuch that a Friend of mine …e on his own knowledg, that they have …over ſeveral within this little time, and …odd Apprehenſions, if ſpeedy Care be … to prevent it for the future. This I …e a matter of the greateſt Conſequence; … it were convenient that the Publick …appris'd of it, both that all true Pro…ight be acquainted to pry into their …f they act contrary to the Laws, as …o ſtop their inſolent Boldneſs, when …hey meet with Succeſs; which in all …y they will do amongſt a poor, neceſ… ignorant People, if they are not un…ſtraint of watchful Eyes that will ob…

…onfeſs 'tis a matter of the greateſt A…t to me, when I obſerve, as I paſs by …ſſador's Houſes, the Throngs of our …ves crouding to the Popiſh Chappels …m; no ſuch thing will ever be per… the Popiſh Countries, where 'tis cri…uch as to look into ours, and our Mi…t be content to exerciſe their Office …with our own People, except they re… Martyrdom. I cannot aim at our Politicks in conniving at ſuch a Diſorder, to me the *Lex Talionis* is the moſt equitable Law; for as they ſerve us, ſo ſhould we ſerve them, except we are aſham'd of our Principles; for the forbearing ſeems to imply a Guilt, and a Conſciouſneſs of our being in the wrong.

'This has often made me fall in with the Cry of the preſent Times, The Church is in Danger: I pray God it may not; if it be, ſurely 'tis from the Papiſts: they breed up a world of our Natives Prieſts, beſides a great number of Laity. *Germany*, *Flanders*, *France*, *Spain* and *Italy* have Seminaries on purpoſe, where thoſe that cannot afford it are brought up *gratis*, and learn the Tongues, Arts and Sciences. Before they are admitted (in moſt of them) they are oblig'd to take an Oath, that after ſuch a Standing they ſhall return into *Britain* to propagate Popery; and many hundred of ſuch Emiſſaries are thought to be now in ſundry Diſguiſes, doing the Buſineſs of *Rome*: And I could tell you a great many Stories of Coachmen, Coopers, Coblers, Pedlars that have been ordain'd Prieſts from theſe Seminaries, and yet got their Livelihoods by ſuch Occupations, *&c.* beſides their general Trade of perverting Ignorants to their abſurd Religion, which they better accompliſh by ſuch Diſguiſes; for the Colleges cannot allow a Maintenance, in regard the Allowances go to the next Comer, and that if they had a Competency, they might grow lazy, and neglect their Travelling about; which would be a manifeſt Injury to *Rome*, who has by this means Spies all over the Nation: And I doubt not ſeveral of the Great Men of the Kingdom have of theſe for Servants, that are Spies upon all their Actions, by which means the ſecreteſt Affairs are known Abroad. I ſhall add no more, leſt I tire your Patience, and ſhall judg of your Acceptation of this by your Paper; which, if of the ſame Conſideration with you as with me, I ſuppoſe I may find therein, and in the interim remain,

'Your humble Servant,

Philo-Eccleſiæ Britanniæ.

Obſ. I am perfectly of the Gentleman's Mind, *Roger*, that thoſe things ought to be enquir'd into and prevented; but the Highflying and Jacobite Faction do all they can to turn the Stream another way, and to ſpirit the People againſt moderate Churchmen and Diſſenters, that they may make the way for the Pretender's Acceſſion to the Crown ſo much the more eaſy.

Countrym. The other is a Letter from a Gentleman, about our honeſt Friend *Abel*'s Endeavours to ſerve the Cauſe, and is as follows:

'*SIR*,

'SIR,

'A Friend of mine having lately communicated the underwritten Paragraph to me, which he assures me can be well attested to be a true Copy of what a Gentleman (whom he also nam'd to me to be lately come from *Exon*) read and copy'd out of the written Postscript to the printed *Post-Boy* of the 5th of this instant *July*, sent from hence by the Post to a Publick House at *Exeter*, from our intelligent Friend *Abel*; who, we doubt not, had it drawn up by some of his Jacobite, Nonjurant, Traitorous Journey-Men: I thought convenient to impart it to you, that you might publish it in your next *Observator*, to let the Nation see who and who's together, and what 'tis that restless Party are aiming at, by the mighty Noise they make of late about Hereditary Right, *&c.* I am

Your hearty Friend and Servant unknown.

The Paragraph is as follows, *viz.*

We hear Mr. Lesley *is lately gone over to* Swisserland, *to convert a certain Young Gentleman from Popery to Protestantism: If he succeed,, 'tis hoped there will be no Experiment try'd hereafter, to make us run the hazard of making use of a* Come-over; *for those sort of Gentlemen ought no more to be trusted, than a stanch Whig,* &c.

There are Letters also from *Dublin*, *Northampton*, and other places, giving an account that *Abel*'s written Postscripts with the same Paragraph were sent thither: Pray give me your thoughts about the meaning of it.

Obs. Every body knows *Abel* not to be capable of much meaning, *Roger*; therefore I take the Gentleman to be in the right, that this Paragraph, as a great many others, has been drawn up for him by some of his Jacobite Prompters, who value themselves no doubt upon that happy Turn of Thought, *Come-over* instead of *Hanover*. Time was, when such Letters would have been taken up, and sent to a Secretary of State, in order to examine the Writer of 'em, how he came to be so well acquainted with the Affairs of *White* alias *Lesley*, as he calls him in some other of his Postscripts, and what he means by his *Come-over*: But *Abel* escap'd so well with his Reflections upon the Elector of *Hanover* about the Affair of *Hildesheim*, which we formerly took notice of, and is so much applauded for the impudent Libels which he publishes so frequently against some of the greatest Men of the Kingdom and the whole Revolution-Party, that he thinks he may do any thing. Besides, these Paragraphs raise the Merit of his Paper, that he's more capable of vying with the *Examiner* and *J. Dyer*, his Fellow-Labourers in the blessed Work of poisoning the Nation with false Accounts of things, and keeping up the High-Church Spirit of Malice and Persecution thro the Kingdom.

Countrym. I perceive there's a fresh Instance of that, Master, from *Westbury* in *Wiltshire*; where they burnt down the Presbyterian Meeting-house on Thursday the 19th instant at night, since they fail'd of burning that at *Mear* in the same County, as the Prosecutors fail'd in having the Incendiary punish'd, tho taken in the Attempt.

Obs. When *Lesley comes over* with his Proselyte from *Swisserland*, *Roger*, (and we hear now that he is on the Road to *Paris*) he may have occasion for such Fellows to rekindle *Smithfield* Flam[es] those of *Pudding-Lane*, which burnt down [the] of the City in 1666. Therefore 'tis kind[ness] Highfliers to save such useful Persons, and to 'em up in their Office under the Conduct [of] *maree* and *Purchase*, that they may know [how] go about it with so much the more dexteri[ty] order to effect the Restoration which *Les[ley]* told us was so near; and lest he should p[ro]false Prophet, is gone himself to take care Accomplishment, if we may believe his *Abel*. Tho they fail'd on St. *George*'s Day, their Songs of Triumph at *Stationers-Hall* w[ere] some Accident or other prevented; and tho likewise fail'd on the 29th of *May*, which seem'd to point at in his Account of the ceedings against Dr. *Sacheverel*, fit to be up with the Account of his Trial printed by *Tonson*: St. *Andrew*'s Day, or any other, as well; of which, 'tis probable, *Abel* m[ay] due notice from his Friend Mr. *White* alias whose Travels he is so well acquainted with there's no doubt but his sort of Churchm[en] be as well pleas'd with the *Come-overs*, Whigs are displeas'd with the *Gone-overs*, ding to *Abel*'s fine Witticism in his *Po[st]* Tuesday. But perhaps *Lesley*, and *Abel*'s *Gone-overs*, may find at last, that been better for 'em to have staid at home *go over* on such Errands: for they may assu[re] selves that the Whigs, tho a ruin'd Par[ty] stand by *Hanover*, and prefer a Protestant a Popish *Come-over*; to the mortification *Irish* Friends, who curs'd the D. of O. Grace promis'd in her Majesty's Name, would secure the Protestant Succession in of *Hanover*.

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¶ Miscellaneous Reflections, occasion'd which appear'd in *December*, 1680. chie[fly] explode Popular Superstitions. Written [in] the *Sorbon*, by Mr. *Bayle*. Translated fr[om] To which is added, the Author's Life. In Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers Hall.

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The Evening Courant.

Numb. 5.

From Tuesday, July 21, to Thursday, July 26. 1711.

Francfort, July 16.

HE Marshal of the Prussian Ministers, with the heavy Baggage and Coaches of Count Dhona, M. Schrader the Second Minister of Hannover, and Signior Albani, arrived here Yesterday: But as the Election of an Emperor is deferr'd to the next Month, the said Mr. Schrader has sent for his Court to go to the Baths at Slangenbad [illegible]terval. All the Envoys for the said Electi[illegible] nominated and instructed, and their Lodg[illegible] are regulated, that the Imperial Quarter-[illegible] express Order from the Marshal of the Empire) [illegible] regard for the Counts and other Persons of [illegible] nor even for the Ministers ordinarily residing [illegible] are not empower'd *ad hunc actum*, but if it be [illegible] will dislodge them, to accommodate the said Am[illegible] Envoys deputed expressly to the Election. [illegible]d, that the Electors of Mentz, Trier, and Pa[illegible] are here by the End of this Month; the Elector [illegible]etinue will be 1200 Men and 1300 Horses, so [illegible] very difficult to find Lodgings and Stabling [illegible] Equipages of the several Electors, and divers [illegible] Quality have been already turn'd out of their [illegible]ey had hired. Every thing is very dear

July 22. The Lodgings for the Retinues of [illegible] who will come hither to assist at the chusing [illegible], and of the Ministers of those who will not [illegible]on, are already mark'd and settled; except [illegible] Retinue of the Plenipotentiaries of K. Au[illegible]r of Saxony, from whom no Harbinger is yet [illegible]e Quarters for the Ambassadors of Bohemia [illegible]re of large Extent; and others are prepa[illegible] Electoral Prince of Saxony. A great Num[illegible]rs of the Ambassador's of the King of Prussia, [illegible] Hannover, of Bohemia, and of Austria, with [illegible]rt of their Baggage, are already arriv'd. [illegible]belonging to the Duke of Savoy, the great [illegible]rany, and divers other Princes, are likewise [illegible] the City is already fill'd with Strangers. [illegible]e, who has been visited by all the Persons of [illegible]re, has assur'd them, that he will principally [illegible]over this City with his Army, from any In[illegible]emy, who he imagines will hardly venture [illegible] Expedition so full of Hazard, it being rather [illegible] will besiege Landau.

25. The Assembly of the Clergy of France, [illegible]inal Noailles at their Head, have lately paid [illegible] the King at Marli. That Prelate in his [illegible] King has these remarkable Expressions. *To [illegible]ying on a War, to which God has not yet been [illegible] End, is to render unto* Cesar *the Things which [illegible]d to give into the Designs of Providence.* —— *[illegible]y has shew'd that you desired to procure Peace [illegible]* —— *that Deluge, form'd by the Showers of Ini[illegible]g, on the Whole Earth, is yet too violent to [illegible]e to go out of the Ark, and bring Men the Olive-Branch.* —— *But by deferring Peace, God vouchsafes to reward your Resignation to his Will, and to justifie your Conduct, and even to justifie his own, (if we may be allowed the Expression) he has again undertaken, and with greater Might the Cause which you maintain.* —— *A Kind of Miracle has again exalted the Throne of your Grandson, and builds it not upon the Sand, but upon the firm Rock, which secures the Thrones of Princes, even the Zeal and Affection of the Subjects.* This is sufficient to let us know that we are not yet to look for the Blessing of Peace, tho' we are at the same Time amus'd with a plausible Rumour on that Subject; in which Discourses there is always something whispered with respect to England. This, together with the unaccountable Journey of the Chevalier St. George, has not been without Effects of exalting Peoples Expectations; but we are so us'd to Amusements of this Nature, that Men of the least Penetration in Affairs will not give Attention to it. One Thing indeed our Courtiers speak positively to, That there will be a Division among the Allies, by the Influence of this Court, which they pretend to have in those of the Czar of Muscovy and K. Augustus, and even in Denmark and Prussia: But what Reflection these Things will bear the Event alone must discover. After all, our News from Dauphine does not at all please the Court; and even the Duke of Berwick himself writes, that without a Supply of Troops he cannot promise the Security of our Frontiers on that Side. Letters from Spain afford nothing of Moment; and they begin to talk with less Warmth of the formidable Projects against Germany; and 'tis even wonder'd that the King should trust the Elector of Bavaria with the Execution of them, who after his Disgrace before Brussels accused himself of being unfortunate, and has always been esteem'd so in this Kingdom: This makes People imagine that he will not yet Command the Army there. 'Tis remarkable, that M. Catinat being asked his Opinion concerning the Enterprize, about 10 or 12 Days before he died, he boldly told the King, that 'twould be impossible to attempt any Thing against the Empire in this Conjuncture, and that there was not the least Probability that the Princes and States of Germany would suffer the Electors of Bavaria and Cologne, to be restored to their Dominions and Dignities, as being perswaded that those 2 Princes will never abandon the Interest of France.

Hague, July 28. They write from Brabant and Flanders, that upon Notice that the Elector of Bavaria has sent Emissaries into those Countries to endeavour to dispose the Inhabitants to an Insurrection, diligent Search will be made after such Incendiaries in order to punish them severely: In the mean Time the Garrison of Brussels has been reinforc'd, and other Measures taken to disappoint the Enemy, who are lading Ammunition, Bombs, &c. at Quenoy and Cambray for some Attempt, which probably would have fallen on Brabant; but we hear a good Body of Troops is detach'd from the Army to observe their Motions. 'Tis impossible to express the Universal Grief that spread thro' the Army when they heard the News of the Death of the Prince of Nassau, who had entirely gained the Love of the Troops of all the several Nations of which it is compos'd. His Body being embalm'd, is sent to Leuwarden to be interr'd,

ties, their Tools that are diſperſed in theſe outlying Parts will not ſo much as mingle together at a Cock-Match. This Humour fills the Country with ſeveral periodical Meetings of Whig Jockeys and Tory Fox-hunters; not to mention the innumerable Curſes, Frowns, and Whiſpers that it produces at a Quarter-Seſſions.

I do not know whether I have obſerved in any of my former Papers, that my Friends Sir ROGER DE COVERLY and Sir ANDREW FREEPORT are of different Principles, the firſt of them inclined to the *landed* and the other to the *monyed* Intereſt. This Humour is ſo moderate in each of them, that it proceeds no farther than to an agreeable Raillery, which very often diverts the reſt of the Club. I find however that the Knight is a much ſtronger Tory in the Country than in Town, which, as he has told me in my Ear, is abſolutely neceſſary for the keeping up his Intereſt. In all our Journey from *London* to his Houſe we did not ſo much as bait at a Whig Inn; or if by Chance the Coachman ſtopped at a wrong Place, one of Sir ROGER's Servants would ride up to his Maſter full Speed, and whiſper to him that the Maſter of the Houſe was againſt ſuch an one in the laſt Election. This often betrayed us into hard Beds and bad Chear; for we were not ſo inquiſitive about the Inn as the Innkeeper, and provided our Landlord's Principles were ſound, did not take any Notice of the Staleneſs of his Proviſions. This I found ſtill the more inconvenient, becauſe the better the Hoſte was, the worſe generally were his Accommodations; the Fellow knowing very well, that thoſe who were his Friends would take up with coarſe Diet and an hard Lodging. For theſe Reaſons, all the while I was upon the Road I dreaded entering into an Houſe of any one that Sir ROGER had applauded for an honeſt Man.

Since my Stay at Sir ROGER's in the Country, I daily find more Inſtances of this narrow Party-Humour. Being upon the Bowling-Green at a neighbouring Market-Town the other Day, (for that is the Place where the Gentlemen of one Side meet once a Week) I obſerved a Stranger among them of a better Preſence and genteeler Behaviour than ordinary; but was much ſurprized, that notwithſtanding he was a very fair *Better*, no Body would take him up. But upon Enquiry I found, that he was one who had given a diſagreeable Vote in a former Parliament, for which Reaſon there was not a Man upon that Bowling-Green who would have ſo much Correſpondence with him as to win his Money of him.

Among other Inſtances of this Nature I muſt not omit one which concerns to my ſelf. *Will. Wimble* was the other Day relating ſeveral ſtrange Stories that he had picked up no Body knows where of a certain great Man; and upon my ſtaring at him as one that was ſurprized to hear ſuch things in the Country that had never been ſo much as whiſpered in the Town, *Will.* ſtopped ſhort in the Thread of his Diſcourſe, and after Dinner aſked my Friend Sir ROGER in his Ear if he was ſure that I was natick.

It gives me a ſerious Concern to ſee ſuch of Diſſention in the Country, not only as Virtue and common Senſe, and renders us ner Barbarians towards one another, but ruates our Animoſities, widens our Bre tranſmits our preſent Paſſions and Prejud Poſterity. For my own Part, I am fraid that I diſcover the Seeds of a C theſe our Diviſions; and therefore can wail, as in their firſt Principles, the Calamities of our Children.

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